

We are looking at energy costs. Everything requires energy when we have a product that goes from a field, from a mine, or from a manufacturer to your home, Mr. Speaker. The fuel costs to operate a tractor, a combine, the trucks that bring you fertilizer and that bring you seed, the trucks that take away the grown product to the processor, to the mill, and finally bringing it to your store shelf or even if you have it delivered to your house, Mr. Speaker. All those energy costs ripple through everything we do and have as citizens of this country.

What is being done about energy costs? Well, I just saw a blurb a minute ago that the President wants to tap into our energy reserve, the stored oil that we have someplace that always seems to be a political football around here to solve some problem when it is really supposed to be a reserve for very acute times of danger for our country. Now, they are using it as an economic flattener or what have you.

We have reserves in the ground in this country that we are not tapping, but our tone-deaf government here and our State of California won't do anything about that. Instead, let's export it from Venezuela, and let's export it from the Middle East. Maybe we will do something about Russia. We will see if that takes effect.

We are not doing anything to help our own people with the energy crisis and energy costs here. We are dancing around that collectively as a government in this administration. Why? What is their priority? When John Kerry says he hopes this thing Putin is doing in Ukraine doesn't stop our ability to reach our climate change goals, how tone-deaf are these people? Are you kidding me?

We are going to continue to enjoy even emptier shelves for our food, tires, and everything else because of high energy costs and a government in Washington and in Sacramento unwilling to do anything about it other than half measures or zero measures.

What does this do to our food supply, as we talked about? My colleagues in the State legislature proposed a sales tax holiday, a fuel tax holiday, which would knock about 51 cents off of a gallon of fuel. It is not the be-all or fix-all, but it can do something temporarily to help while we get our energy going again, supposedly. It would help. They turned that down. Instead, they proposed a tax increase on production of fuel in California. Unbelievable. Damn, who are you guys working for? Amazing.

In my home State, as we try to produce food, tens of millions of acre-feet of water and snow fall upon our State each year. We hear drought, drought, drought, record drought. Yes, it is lower than normal, but we are not capturing the water we can.

We could raise Shasta Dam, a Federal project, which Federal dollars were put toward. We could build Sites Reservoir in northern California and

add 1.5 million-acre feet of stored water.

But no. They are letting the water get away out through the delta for salinity and for fish populations that don't even exist. The delta smelt is gone.

The Klamath Basin up in the north, zero allocation for agriculture last year and this year. Statewide, we are looking at probably 70 percent of irrigated acres by the time it is all added up. They are going to be idle this year.

What does that mean to the American people? That is California's problem; you guys don't know what you are doing out there anyway. Well, tomato production is going to be down quite a bit, so that means less tomato sauce for New York, less olives and olive oil for New York.

This is what we are doing to our food production. Fertilizer costs are going to drive costs even more, and we will not be farming in California much longer.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S BUDGET DISREGARDS FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, President Biden's own words: Show me your budget, and I will show you your priorities.

President Biden's budget is not only a reflection of his priorities; it is a mirror into the soul of the Democrat Party. Biden's budget exposes Democrat leadership's complete disregard for fiscal responsibility, adding trillions of dollars in new spending and sending us hurtling toward an incalculable national debt of \$45 trillion by 2032.

The budget proposal includes a staggering \$2.5 trillion in tax hikes that would weaken our global competitiveness, stifle wage growth, and send prices skyrocketing even higher than the current 40-year high inflation. The result would be devastating for American investment, innovation, and jobs.

The deficit spending in Biden's proposal will leave our children steeped in debt and at risk of an economic crisis they cannot borrow their way out of. His budget doubles down on the radical socialist policies, including the Green New Deal and its extreme environmental policies and a whole-of-government assault on oil and gas, which is undermining our energy independence and making us weaker and more vulnerable, like our friends in Europe. It also includes tax hikes that will make America less competitive, raising taxes higher than Communist China, and hiring tens of thousands of new IRS agents to harass hardworking Americans.

This is his vision for a stronger and more prosperous America.

While the President's expansion of nondefense domestic spending is on

pace to double over the next several years, his budget effectively cuts spending for the Defense Department by 4 percent. If our adversaries weren't already emboldened by the disaster at the southern border, the debacle in Afghanistan, the weak negotiations with Iran, or the slow and feckless response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, they certainly will be now.

The President's budget is not only a failure in the area of readiness; it is more advertisement of weakness in an increasingly dangerous world.

Lastly, the President's budget uses an outrageous budget gimmick to prevent his massive, multitrillion-dollar Build Back Better from affecting the budget score.

Mr. Speaker, if the American people did that—that off-balance, Enron-like accounting scheme—they would go to prison. This is not just intellectually dishonest; it is downright deceitful.

From the top-line numbers to tax hikes, from partisan policies to bureaucratic bloat, President Biden's budget highlights the Democratic Party's real priorities: the largest expansion and most radical reimagination of the Federal Government in the lives of its people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LIEU) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, take this day into Your keeping. Let no minute pass that we fail to realize that You have ordained its stewardship, guided our footsteps, and allowed our enjoyment of it.

For You only had to speak, and the heavens were created. You breathed Your words, and the stars were born. You assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs.

Holy God, we marvel at Your handiwork and stand in awe of Your power. So may we realize that You are at work in us this day.

In reverence to You, may we display the beauty of Your creation in us. May we be true to the purposes for which You have placed us in this time, in this place.

From our mouths, may there come forth words that reflect both Your